

Prescott Hikes

Aspen Creek Trail

Distance: 11.5 miles total out and back

Elevation gain: 1,912 feet

Difficulty rating: 4

- Notes: Get ready for a fun challenge with this trail to summit Thumb Butte. The elevation gain is mostly gradual, so just enjoy the views. There have been many sightings of Bald Eagles and much more wildlife. Pack lots of water for this long day on the trail. It starts off shaded by trees but gets more exposed the higher you go, so bring sun protection and your camera for the views.

Constellation Loop Trail

Distance: 2.4 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 236 feet

Difficulty rating: 1

- Notes: This trail is well marked and has tons of interesting features. The rock formations are unlike any other trail in the area, but the path is easy to navigate, and great for younger kids and pets too.

Gold Water Lakes Trail

Distance: 8.1 miles total out and back

Elevation gain: 1,233 feet

Difficulty rating: 3.5

- Notes: Don't let the distance scare you off. This hike has gradual climbs and benches along the lake for breaks with a beautiful view. This trail can get muddy after a snow or rain, but that just adds to the adventure.

Granite Mountain Trail

Distance: 8.1 miles total out and back

Elevation gain: 1656 feet

Difficulty rating: 3.5

- Notes: This trail features a nice creek along the way (mostly in Spring). It gets a little more challenging closer to the top, but the view is worth the climb. Go earlier in the day to beat the heat and the crowds, and you will most definitely see some wildlife along the way!

Little Granite Trail

Distance: 9.6 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 1,811 feet

Difficulty rating: 4

- Notes: One of the top rated trails in the Prescott area, it's a must do. A challenging climb, but definitely worth it! There's plenty of change in scenery, and you'll feel like a champion after completing this rewarding hike. Strap on your best boots and pack lots of water!

[Lynx Lake Loop Trail](#)

Distance: 2.4 miles

Elevation gain: 78 feet

Difficulty rating: 1

- Notes: This loop goes around one of the most beautiful lakes in Prescott, and it's partially paved and accessible to all people. The variety of birds along this hike are impressive, so keep your eyes and ears open, and enjoy the colorful plumage these little creatures offer.

[Peavine Trail](#)

Distance: 12 miles total out and back

Elevation gain: 462 feet

Difficulty rating: 4

- Notes: This trail is a great intro to longer hikes. There is very little variation in elevation, but you have the option to go the full 6 miles out one way, making it a long 12 miles round trip. Its mostly exposed to the sun, so bring the sun screen. This area charges a \$3 parking fee to access the trail head.

[Prescott Circle Trail](#)

Distance: 54 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 6,289 feet

Difficulty rating: 5+

- Notes: This backpacking or mountain biking trail is meant for the hiking experts out there. This loop system was put together as a collaborative effort from multiple land agencies and the city of Prescott. You will get views of multiple lakes, cut through the Granite Dells, and enjoy sites of Granite Mountain and Thumb Butte.

[Spruce Mountain via Groom Creek Loop](#)

Distance: 9.8 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 1,637 feet

Difficulty rating: 4

- Notes: This loop is a great challenge for the intermediate hiker. The wild flowers are a must-see, so bring your pup (on leash) and enjoy this forested adventure! The view is fantastic at the top and worth the climb. It's a bit rocky in parts, so wear good shoes with ankle support.

[Thumb Butte Trail](#)

Distance: 2.5 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 688 feet

Difficulty rating: 2

- Notes: This well marked trail is perfect for any hiker looking for a moderate adventure. Start the loop to the right for a more gradual climb, or take the left start for a steeper challenge. There is a \$5 fee to get into this area.

[Watson Lake and Flume Trail](#)

Distance: 4.5 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 367 feet

Difficulty rating: 2

- Notes: This loop is one of the most popular spots in Prescott, and for good reason. With the beautiful lakeside views, abundant wildlife, and easy access, you can enjoy this hike all year round.

[White Spar Loop Trail](#)

Distance: 2.4 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 265 feet

Difficulty rating: 1

- Notes: Great hike for a beginner or anyone looking for an easy hike day. Some parts have shade while others are cleared from logging. There's plenty of wildlife, and beautiful plants and trees to enjoy along the way.

[Willow Lake Trail](#)

Distance: 5.7 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 354 feet

Difficulty rating: 3

- Notes: This trail offers a ton of variety. Not much in the way of climbs, but some rocky parts to go up. There are some grassy parts, lots of sun and some shade too. If the lake water is high, part of the trail will get submerged and impassible, unless you want to go for swim. Spring brings the bugs, but bring some spray and enjoy the views. The trail isn't the best marked, so get a map to help you out!

[Wolf Creek Loop Trail](#)

Distance: 5.5 miles on a loop

Elevation gain: 810 feet

Difficulty rating: 3

- Notes: Here's another trail to check out. There are spots with incredible views and beautiful scenery. This trail follows a 4x4 road, and has some rocky spots to be aware of. There's some creek access and lots of shade, so enjoy this one on a hot summer day! Don't forget to check out the small waterfall, it's a must see.